

ASSISTANCE TO THE
BOATING COMMUNITY

marlborough-nelson marineradio association



Keep this
brochure on
board your vessel
for future
reference.

Marlborough-Nelson Marine Radio Association Incorporated is a membership-based organisation that operates the privately owned VHF channels **01, 04, 05, 60, 63, 65** and **66** in the central New Zealand area. Unless an emergency, access to these channels is limited to current financial members only.

Marlborough-Nelson Marine Radio Association Incorporated is governed by an elected committee and has a team of dedicated volunteer radio operators, who offer a friendly and efficient service, with the added benefit of providing local knowledge of this immense area.

Marlborough-Nelson Radio relies on membership subscriptions, donations, and sponsorship to provide this service. Please join and help us to help you to maintain your safety!

Benefits of belonging to the Association include:

- Rights to transmit and receive on channels **01, 04, 05, 60, 63, 65** and, for commercial vessels only, channel 66
- Monitored trip reports - Police Search and Rescue are notified when vessels are overdue
- Scheduled daily weather reports - updates on request
- Local navigational warnings
- A link to medical assistance
- Tide information
- Assistance with passing on essential messages, eg revised ETA notification. All toll calls and calls to cell phones will be on-charged to the member.
- General assistance, for example:
 - Mechanical failure
 - Reporting or locating lost gear
 - Finding a local service provider for marine repairs and equipment
 - VHF radio transmission checks.

MEMBERSHIP

There are two categories of membership:

Recreational: Pleasure craft privately owned.

Commercial: Vessel or shore base station engaged in commercial activity.

Complete the application form attached to this brochure or online at www.marineradio.org.nz. For more information contact:

The Administrator - Ph 03 573 8851 marineradio@xtra.co.nz
www.marineradio.org.nz

SAFETY THROUGH VHF COMMUNICATION

Radio communication in the Golden Bay, Tasman Bay, Cook Strait, Marlborough Sounds, and surrounding waterways using the privately owned marine VHF channels of **01, 04, 05, 60, 63, 65** and **66**

LOCATION AND COVERAGE OF EACH CHANNEL

Channel 01: Mt Stokes

Coverage extends from Cape Farewell in the south to Cape Egmont in the north and in the east from Cape Palliser to Cape Campbell, most of the Marlborough Sounds, Golden Bay, Tasman Bay, Wellington and Cook Strait, and may at times be workable outside these perimeters.

Channel 04: Drumduan

Provides extremely good coverage of Tasman Bay, Croisilles Harbour, French Pass, D'Urville and Stephens Island areas. Channel 04 is a solar powered site and is linked to both channels 60 and 65.

Channel 05: Ward

Plans to site a channel 05 repeater to the east of Ward are progressing. Coverage is anticipated to be from Clarence in the south and northwards around Cape Campbell into Clifford Bay. If you are boating in this area, please check with the Admin office regarding progress.

Channel 60: Mt Burnett

Mount Burnett is northwest of Collingwood. Channel 60 covers the Golden Bay area across to D'Urville Island, also around the West Coast to Kahurangi Point inclusive of Farewell Spit and beyond. South of Kahurangi Point there is limited coverage 500 metres offshore. Channel 60 is linked to both channels 04 and 65.

Channel 63: Mt Kahikatea

Coverage is Queen Charlotte Sound, Port Underwood, Cook Strait, south to Cape Campbell, Kapiti, Mana, and also parts of Kenepuru and Pelorus Sounds.

Channel 65: Paradise Reserve

Covers Kenepuru, Pelorus, Havelock, D'Urville, western Cook Strait, parts of Tasman Bay, Golden Bay and large sections of Queen Charlotte Sound. Channel 65 is permanently linked to channels 04 and 60.

Channel 66: Mt Stokes

Coverage area similar to Channel 01. This repeater is for commercial members use only and is not operator monitored.

As a member, these are your channels. If you know of someone using these channels who is not a member, encourage them to join! Otherwise you will be subsidising their contribution to our operating costs!



General VHF Coverage Area

Marlborough-Nelson Radio repeaters provide comprehensive coverage of the Golden Bay, Tasman Bay, Cook Strait, Marlborough Sounds, and surrounding waterways.

Where channels are linked transmissions made on one channel are heard on the specified linked channels simultaneously.

HOW MARLBOROUGH-NELSON MARINE RADIO BEGAN

The top of the South Island has some of the most beautiful, but also some of the most dangerous waters in the country, particularly French Pass, Tory Channel, and Cook Strait.

This was recognised very early on by several local commercial and recreational boaties, who were often engaged in various search and rescue missions. In the early 1950s, the Picton Small Marine Craft Radio Association formed to help boaties navigate in this area more safely, and in the same era the Havelock Small Marine Craft Radio Association evolved for similar reasons. In the Nelson area Nelson Fishermen's Radio operated a double side band radio service with May Hope being the original radio operator.

Tony and Betty Baker were instrumental in raising awareness of the service in the Queen Charlotte Sound / Picton side from the late 1960s; similarly the Havelock operation grew as a result of the dedication of Alan and Val Johnson. The Picton and Havelock Associations eventually amalgamated to become Marlborough Marine Radio Association Inc. In May 1987 Nelson Fishermen's Radio and Mt Campbell VHF Marine Radio Users Association (Motueka) amalgamated, becoming Mt Campbell – Nelson Marine Radio Association operating VHF and SSB schedules daily, and later became the Nelson Marine Radio Association. On 1 July 2018 the Marlborough Marine and Nelson Marine Radio Associations amalgamated to form Marlborough-Nelson Marine Radio Association providing members with operator monitored channels from Cape Campbell north around to Kahurangi Lighthouse on the West Coast, and northwards towards the Taranaki Bight and to Cape Palliser in the east.

VHF radio coverage in the area increased over the years by the installation of various repeaters. In 1983 channel 63 was installed on Mt Kahikatea, and around the same time channel 60 was put above Motueka on Mt Campbell. In 1989 channel 65 was erected at Paradise Reserve, above Kaiuma, and in 1991 channels 01 and 66 were installed on Mt Stokes. Late in 2003 channel 60 was relocated to Mt Burnett above Collingwood and linked to the newly installed channel 28 repeater on Drumduan, north east of Nelson. Also, in 2003 channel 05 was installed on Saddle Hill and was permanently linked to channel 65 in 2010. In 2018, after the amalgamation of the Nelson and Marlborough Associations, channel 05 was removed from Saddle Hill and the re-siting of this repeater to the east of Ward is progressing. Once completed the Association's coverage is expected to extend south to Clarence. At the same time in 2018 channel 28 was re-engineered to channel 04 due to RSM requirements.



Mt Stokes Repeater - Channels 01 & 66

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

All stations utilising the Marlborough-Nelson Radio channels 01, 04, 05, 60, 63, 65 & 66 must be a member of the Marlborough-Nelson Radio Association Incorporated.

The Executive and Operators of Marlborough-Nelson Marine Radio Association Incorporated offer their services as volunteers and do so on the basis that they accept no personal liability in respect of any loss or damage suffered by any person arising out of their voluntary service or the activities of the Association generally. To assist with the operation of the Association please note the following:

- Ensure you are a current financial member.
- Keep your conversations to a minimum - someone may be trying to use the radio for urgent assistance. It may also block the "scan" mode for our operators trying to monitor other channels.
- Radios are not a toy - don't let children play with them!
- Any shore station operating on any of Marlborough-Nelson Radio's channels needs to be approved by the Association - please contact the office for further information.

JOINING MARLBOROUGH-NELSON RADIO

Please complete the attached form or the online application at www.marineradio.org.nz.

Membership fees are reviewed each year and approved at the Annual General Meeting (usually held in October).

For current fees please visit www.marineradio.org.nz or call the Office on (03) 573 8851.

Membership options are available for both recreational and commercial users.

Fees can be paid directly into our

Westpac bank account 03 0599 0321053 00

by internet banking or at any Westpac Branch.

Please ensure you include your name, vessel name and membership number as a reference.

URGENT CALLS

See your Radio Handbook (copies available by emailing publications@maritimenz.govt.nz) for further details regarding:

Mayday - distress call.

Seelonce Mayday - silence on all transmissions which interfere with distress communications.

Pan Pan - urgent message concerning the safety of a ship or person.

Sécurité - important navigational or meteorological warning.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

First name(s)

Surname

Company name

Postal address

Post code

Membership type recreational / commercial

Home phone

Business phone

Cellphone

Email

By providing an email address, you agree that Marlborough-Nelson Radio may send your annual invoice and other promotional material from time to time. This assists us in reducing administration costs.

VESSEL DETAILS

Boat name

Boat type/design

Boat length

Hull colour

Deck colour

Upper colour

Number of masts

Engine size

Fuelled by diesel / petrol

Fuel capacity (litres)

Range on full tanks (hours)

Operating speed (knots)

Vessel contact phone number

SAFETY FEATURES / OTHER

NZ Radio Frequency call sign

MMSI number

Number of VHF radios: boat set (s)

handheld (s)

shore base set (s)

NZYF number (yachts)

EPIRB Yes / No

Number of handheld flares

Number of rocket flares

Number of smoke flares

Number of lifejackets

Liferaft Yes / No

Marina / mooring location

(or trailer registration number)

On-shore contact

Telephone

Relationship

Tender make/model

Tender colour

Tender motor

I/We agree to be bound by the terms and conditions set by the Association.

Applicant's signature

How did you hear about Marlborough-Nelson Marine Radio Association? (eg. radio ad, launching ramp signage, operator message, boat club, name of member etc.)

Information supplied will be treated as private and confidential and will only be divulged to third parties in the event of an emergency.

Please send your completed form to Marlborough-Nelson Marine Radio Association, PO Box 55, Picton 7250
or email to marineradio@xtra.co.nz

Please ensure you have completed both sides of this application form.

TRIP REPORTS (TR)

When placing a TR please be ready to provide the following:

- Vessel name
- Destination
- Call sign
- Number of persons on board (POB)
- Departure point
- Estimated time of arrival (ETA)

Please make sure you cancel your TR upon completion. If you anticipate a change in your ETA then you must update your TR at or before your previously advised ETA.

We follow up on overdue vessels - if no contact is made within 30 minutes of a vessel failing to terminate their TR at the appointed ETA, the Police will be advised, which could result in a search and rescue operation being initiated.

For important safety reasons, the operators can only accept TRs that terminate the same day they are initiated.

If any part of your trip takes place outside our area of coverage or hours of operation, please log your TR with Maritime Radio on VHF Channel 16. This is also applicable for TRs that extend over several days. (Please note that Maritime Radio may not instigate a search and rescue operation for non-cancelled TRs).

MARLBOROUGH-NELSON RADIO

MARLBOROUGH-NELSON RADIO CALL SIGNS:

Channel	Call Sign
01	Marlborough-Nelson Radio zero-one
04	Marlborough-Nelson Radio zero-four
05	Marlborough-Nelson Radio zero-five
60	Marlborough-Nelson Radio six-zero
63	Marlborough-Nelson Radio six-three
65	Marlborough-Nelson Radio six-five

These channels are monitored from 0700 to 2200 hours.

MARLBOROUGH-NELSON RADIO WEATHER TIMES:

Ch 01, 04, 05, 60, 63, 65 start 0835, 1135, 1335, 1735

OTHER LOCAL STATIONS

MARITIME RADIO

VHF 16: Continuous watch 24 hrs

WEATHER TIMES: 0533, 0733, 1033, 1333, 1733, 2133

PICTON HARBOUR RADIO

VHF 18: Continuous watch 24 hours and full broadcasts of current navigation warnings

NELSON HARBOUR RADIO

VHF 12: Continuous watch 24hrs

WELLINGTON HARBOUR RADIO

VHF 16, 62: Continuous watch 24hrs

Details may change without notice.

USING YOUR VHF RADIO

Initial contact should be made on channels 01, 04, 05, 60, 63, 65 or 66 (channel 66 is for the use of commercial members only). Then if both parties are in close proximity they should change to a working channel, either 06 or 08 for ship to ship, or 74 for ship to shore.

When in Tory Channel and the inner Queen Charlotte Sound, you should include channel 18 in your scan mode to ascertain ferry movements. Vessels are also required to make a 10-minute call on VHF channel 18 when entering or exiting Tory Channel at the Cook Strait end. Vessels transiting French Pass are required to make a 10-minute call on channel 65.

GET YOUR MARITIME VHF RADIO OPERATOR CERTIFICATE

To legally operate a marine VHF radio you need a minimum of a Maritime VHF Radio Operator Certificate. The only exception is in the case of an emergency.

Options for gaining this essential qualification include classroom, online, or home study. Course costs, including assessment, range from approximately \$90 - \$125.

Visit www.boatingeducation.org.nz for options and details.

BASIC RADIO OPERATION

- Before transmitting select the appropriate channel for your area.
- Ensure the volume control on your radio is turned up.
- Adjust the squelch control until the static noise stops.
- Listen to see if there is traffic on the channel.
- If the channel is clear, push your microphone button firmly and speak clearly and slowly, saying the name of the station you are calling, followed by the name of your own vessel. Speak across your microphone rather than directly into it.
- Speak slowly, and be clear and concise when transmitting.

Please note, improper use of VHF radio systems may incur a fine of up to \$20,000. Please remember every time you transmit, all stations within range who are monitoring that channel will hear your conversation. It may also be recorded.



CALL SIGNS AND MMSI NUMBERS

GET A MARITIME VHF RADIO CALL SIGN

A call sign is a unique identifier for your vessel. In New Zealand call signs begin with the letters ZM followed by another letter and four numbers. All pleasure vessels fitted with a VHF radio require a call sign which can be obtained by visiting www.boatingeducation.org.nz and following the call signs tab.

Maritime VHF radio callsigns are issued for vessels operating within New Zealand Waters only. New Zealand registered vessels heading offshore may require an individual ships radio license rather than the standard general user radio license.

CALL SIGNS AND BUYING OR SELLING A VESSEL

If you buy or sell a vessel you need to negotiate with the other party if the VHF radio call sign will remain with the vessel. The call sign and MMSI number does not automatically transfer if a vessel is sold. Permission must be granted by the person who holds the call sign & MMSI to transfer the callsign to a new holder. It is important the transfer process is completed to ensure accurate details are available to appropriate authorities in the event of an overdue vessel.

Please contact Coastguard on 0800 408 090 or visit www.boatingeducation.org.nz to update the associated vessel or call sign registered owner details.

GET AN MMSI NUMBER

MMSI stands for Maritime Mobile Service Identifier. An MMSI is issued by Radio Spectrum Management and is permanently attached to a callsign. They must not be separated.

An MMSI, once entered into a radio transmitter or AIS equipment, is very difficult and often costly to remove, therefore it is highly recommended that the callsign and MMSI remain with the vessel. Visit www.boatingeducation.org.nz to get an MMSI number.

OPERATOR MONITORING

Channels 01, 04, 05, 60, 63, 65 - Our dedicated team of volunteer operators maintain a listening watch on these channels between the hours of 0700 and 2200. Channel 66 is for the use of Marlborough-Nelson Radio commercial members only and is not operator monitored.

In the case of an ongoing emergency, Marlborough-Nelson Radio will, as required, continue monitoring channels 01, 04, 05, 60, 63 and 65 outside of these hours.

Details of the Marlborough-Nelson Radio duty operator are available by calling the office of the Association (Ph 03 573 8851) 24 hours. All radio operator details and contacts are listed on www.marineradio.org.nz

Marlborough-Nelson Marine Radio Association Inc is proudly supported by



Unit 2b, 16 Marina Dr, Waikawa Marina, Picton 7220.

PO Box 55, Picton 7250

marineradio@xtra.co.nz, www.marineradio.org.nz

Ph (03) 573 8851

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